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If Rumors Were Horses

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Preserving A Historic Legacy: The HBCU Library Alliance

by Loretta O'Brien Parham (Director of University Libraries, Hampton University) <Loretta.Parham@hamptonu.edu> and Janice R. Franklin, Ph. D. (Director of University Libraries, Alabama State University) <jfrankin@asu.net.alasu.edu>

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) evolved from a segregated south with a mission to educate newly freed slaves that had been emancipated after the Civil War with the promise of equal opportunity under the law as Americans. In spite of struggles to survive, historically black colleges and universities have flourished, educating thousands of professionals that have made outstanding contributions to the growth and prosperity of their country. HBCUs, and the libraries that serve their community of scholars, are today considered American treasures. The Higher Education Act of 1965 defined HBCU, and by Executive Order in 1980, the White House Initiative on HBCUs bestowed special national recognition to these 105 institutions for their value in American society. The libraries of HBCUs have supported the mission and preserved the legacy of black achievement through wealth of priceless collections that now reside within their walls. Realizing this rich heritage and the need to work together to strengthen and integrate libraries into teaching and learning activities on the campuses of their historic institutions, 96 librarians representing 101 HBCUs met in Atlanta, October 28 and 29, 2002 to answer a call for cooperation at a historic HBCU Library Initiative conference. The intent of the conference was to explore opportunities for collaboration and to strategize about ways in which more advocacy can be generated for HBCU libraries.

The Cry for Unity
The idea for the initiative grew out of a meeting in 2001 of the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) Board of Directors. SOLINET is a membership network of 2,575 libraries and other information organizations, working in collaboration with many partners, local to international, to provide leadership for cooperative action, improve access to information, and enable its members to effectively anticipate and address the region's needs for education, economic development, and improved quality of life. The region includes ten U.S. States, and the Caribbean.

Serving on the nine member Board were directors of two HBCU libraries, Loretta O'Brien Parham of Hampton University and Janice R. Franklin of Alabama State University. Parham and Franklin were able to observe the work of SOLINET member libraries belonging to the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL), and spoke about the need to develop a...
This year has begun well, except it’s too cold to my taste. I like the weather just like it was in San Diego when A.L.A. was there. Perfect. This issue of ATG is full of all kinds of special stuff. There are the new and different things. This issue is guest edited by Glenda Alvin and Pamela Theus and is about collection development issues in Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Six articles by Loretta O’Brien Parham and Janice Franklin, Alkilah Nosakhore, Luke Swindler and Terry Hill, Roland Barkdsdale-Hall, Alfred Willis, and Glenda Alvin give us a good look at an important area of collection development. This issue includes interviews with Ron Maas the General Manager of Libraries Unlimited, Mitchell Davis VP of Marketing at BookSurge, and Marcia Bartusiak a freelance Science Writer. Our profiles this month are with Audrey Fenner, our new column editor for “Biz of Acq,” and Leonard DiSanto from H.W. Wilson Co. Also in this issue are two “ATG Special Reports,” one from Joyce Durant titled “Technical Services: Issues in the Electronic Environment,” and one by Chris Matz who tells us if comic books are a worthy consideration on scholarly grounds. “And They Were There” is packed with lots of reports from the 2003 Charleston Conference, so if you weren’t there Kathryn McCarthy, Anthony Watkinson, Rebecca Lenzini, Heather Miller, Rosann Bazirjian, and Ramune Kubilius will tell you some of what you missed. Anthony Watkinson has provided an article on Open Access and we have our normal book and reference reviews from Debbie Vaughn and Tom Gilson, plus “Books Are Us” from Anne Robichaux, and from the winner of the Rachel K. Schenk Memorial Scholarship “My Love of Books” by Ann Doyle. Mark Herring also has a new column titled appropriately “Little Red Herrings.”

Last but not least, included are reminiscences of our friend and colleague, Dana Alessi who we all miss very much. Several of our old friends have surfaced in these reminiscences. Looking back over back issues of ATG which is sixteen years old, by the way, sweet sixteen, caused me to do more reminiscing. If you have some old issues, look over them. We may think we live in a static world, but we definitely do not!

Happy New Year and love.

Yr. Ed.

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: Against the Grain, MSC’98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the ATG Homepage at http://www.against-the-grain.com.

Dear Editor:

I have a bone to pick with you! First you were not at the big party that Fred Gallette and I threw in the old private train car in San Diego. It was a pretty hot thing. Even John Berry from Library Journal and Leonard Kniffel from American Libraries were there. What were you doing, woman? You sure missed a good time.

Second, I am curious why you have not mentioned my big triumph! My son, Fred, has been elected as Town Supervisor of Lewiston. He will certainly keep them all straight!

Well, I have to go. Keep on your toes. Papa Lyman is watching and getting out his pen.

Lyman Newlin
Book Trade Counselor
<Broadwater@wnyp.net>

Rumors from page 1

The Stanford Daily for Friday, January 30, 2004, has an article on Stanford’s decision to leave ARL, “Library leaves group” by Corina Yen. Stanford was one of the founding members of ARL in 1932. “We have other ways of engendering productivity with our peers and partners in the research community,” said Michael Keller, Stanford University Librarian.

http://daily.stanford.edu/daily99-00/11-8-1999/news/tempo? page=content&item=12877&repository=0001_article
http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/C4376673/display=breakingnews

And speaking of Michael Keller (who we hope to have as a keynote in Charleston 2004), I can’t help myself. Way back in June of 2003 ATG Rumors (v:1583, p.10) told y’all about Michael Keller and the rDigitalBooks robot as reported in the New York Times, May 12, 2003 by John Markoff (“The Evelyn Wood of Digitized Book Scanners?”). This project is now called “Project Ocean.”

The incredible Audrey Fenner <afenner@uncg.edu> is the new Biz of Acq editor! Did y’all meet her in Charleston? She is head of acquisitions at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and hails from Canada. Her profile is in this issue, p.65. Audrey takes over the editorship from the awesome Michelle Flinchbaugh <flinchba@umbe.edu> who is head of acquisitions at the University of Maryland in Baltimore. Michelle is our guest editor for the April issue, coming up.

Speaking of awesome and incredible, Glenda Alvin and Pamela Theus are our guest editors for this issue of Against the Grain on collection development in Historically Black Colleges and Universities, I learned a lot. Enjoy.

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AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES
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<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
The terrific Cindy Cunningham — who, thanks to Sandy Paul, enlightened us all at a Charleston Conference some years ago about Amazon — is leaving Amazon.com after six years. She sends word that she has a new position at Corbis.com starting the end of February. Here is her new email: <cindyecpacz@yahoo.com>.

Classical International Inc. has announced the appointment of Tim Lloyd as Chief Executive Officer. Tim is the co-founder of the company and has held a key strategic role as Chief Operating Officer since its inception in 2000, leading Classical International through the successful development and launch of Classical Music Library. Previously Strategy Manager for residential business at Cable & Wireless Communications in the UK, Tim was instrumental in developing the thinking behind its launch of digital services to B2B customers. Prior to this he was a management consultant with Price Waterhouse, specializing in business planning and strategy for the Entertainment, Media and Communications (EMC) group.

www.classical.com

Speaking of which, just got an email from Heather Buettner <hbuettner@naxosusa.com> who used to work for Classical and is now working for Naxos Online Music Library. I have to tell you that Naxos is one of my favorite Greek islands. My husband and I visited there when I was five months pregnant and too young to know how stupid we were to be traveling around in my condition. (We didn’t even have a place to stay!) Ah, youth! Anyway, to get back on track, Naxos Music Library will launch at the 2004 Music Library Association meeting in Washington D.C. The new service will be available to libraries and educational institutions starting this month, offering an instant music collection of over 75,000 tracks of classical music. As a classical music lover, I can’t tell you how excited I am about these two companies — Classical and Naxos — jumping into the marketplace for our listening enjoyment. For more information about Naxos, contact Heather Buettner at (615) 771 9393 extension 54 or email her at <hbuettner@naxosusa.com>.

The astute John Riley <jdriley@comcast.net> tells me he went to Ann Hugo’s (Dartmouth) retirement party today. He says she is headed to Bloomsburg, PA, for awhile and then on to Amelia Island, FL. She is looking forward to new adventures in the book world.

I don’t think that we told you that the wonderful Deanna Marcum has been appointed Associate Librarian for Library Services at the Library of Congress. She holds a bachelor’s in English from the University of Illinois and a master’s in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. In 1991, she was awarded a doctorate in American Studies from the University of Maryland. Marcum served as director of Public Service and Collection Management at the Library of Congress from 1993-95. In 1995, she was appointed president of the Council on Library Resources and president of the Commission on Preservation and Access. Libraries are the largest small businesses. These two organizations became the Council on Library and Information Resources in 1997 and has served as its president since that time. From 1989-92, she was dean of the School of Library and Information Science at the Catholic University of America and vice-president of the Council on Library Resources from 1981-89.

2004 (can you believe it?) is already one month over and we are only just now getting out the subscriber letters to Against the Grain (v.16, where have the years gone?), For those of you who are lax and have yet to subscribe, naughty, naughty. Renew! Renew! Renew!

In fact, we have gotten more requests than usual for invoices for 2004 which is great! Yesterday, got a call from Joe Galvezon from the Second Circuit Court of Appeals Library in New York. He was telling me that the Martha Stewart trials are taking place in their building and there is lots of security. Anyway, did you know that the head of ordering and procurement at this library is Evan Pappas who is Greek. Hooray.

And, speaking of another Evan, Evan Reader, the great negotiator and groundbreaker (what will we do without him?) is retiring on August 1, 2004. By gosh, by golly. Evan’s wife looks just like Barbara Streisand. We will miss you, Evan, but hopefully we will see you at the 2004 Charleston Conference — November 3 (preconferences and Vendor Showcase) and November 4 (conference). We are trying to select a theme for the 2004 conference. Any ideas? How about, “All the world’s a serial”? Comments welcome.

Speaking of the 2004 Charleston Conference, I just got off the phone with Gayle Karolczyk at the Francis Marion Hotel who is overseeing the renovations to the Francis Marion Conference Center. She tells me that all the renovations will be completed in August and that there is even another conference scheduled in the facility in September.

And, I guess I got sidetracked. I was going to tell you about another Greek; in fact Tony talks about her in his Back Talk (this issue, p.86). Have you seen Martha Kyrillidou and Mark Young’s ARL Statistics 2001-02: Research Library Trends. ARL Statistics have been collected annually since 1961-62 describing collections, staffing, expenditures, and service activities for 124 members of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). The whole data series from 1908, which is available on the ARL FTP server, represents the oldest and most comprehensive continuing library statistical series in North America. The interactive Web edition is also supported by the University of Virginia, Geosciences Data Center. ARL libraries are a relatively small subset of libraries in North America, but they do account for a large portion of academic library resources in terms of assets, budgets, and the number of users they serve. The total library expenditures of all 124 member libraries in 2001-02 was more than $3.2 billion; from that, about $2.5 billion was spent by the 114 university libraries and just over $750 million by the nonuniversity libraries. http://www.arl.org/stats/arlstat/02pub/intro02.html

More talking. Was speaking with Angela D’Agostino (VP Business Development & Marketing, Bowker) the other day. She was telling me what a great time she had at the Conference. It was the first time that she had come. She was especially raving about your friends and mine, Ruth Fischer <ruth@rcconsulting.org> and Rick Lugg <rick@rcconsulting.org>.

And what should happen next, but I heard from Rick and Ruth (above). They are no dummies, I will tell you that! On Monday, they are getting out of the snow of Contoocook, NH and heading for a month’s trip to Australia and New Zealand where they are giving eight day-long workshops on Technical Services Workflows and two on eBooks for Libraries. Like I said, these people are no dummies. Maybe that’s why they are consultants.

And, speaking of traveling, some people have all the luck. Norm Desmarais <norm@providence.edu> is planning to ski the French, Swiss, and Austrian Alps in February. Norm is leaving this coming week for a month in Europe where he’s going to visit his daughter Denise who is working near Lyon. (She’ll be on vacation the next two weeks; so they plan to go skiing at Chamonix.) From there, they plan to go to Berlin and when they come back, they’ll join up with Norm’s brother who’s working in Switzerland. Then they’ll ski the Jungfrau area around Grindelwald. Norm is planning on staying with his brother and family a couple of extra weeks (Denise has to get back to work in the meantime.) And they plan to go to Salzburg, Innsbruck, and Vienna. More skiing in Innsbruck. Norm says he’ll be back the middle of March and I guess he’ll have to settle for one of those skiing exercise machines when he comes home.

Printing in libraries has always been a problem, especially in the online environment. In fact, I remember back in the Dark Ages, when I was a student trying to print off of thermal machines that we had just gotten as copiers in the Louis Round Wilson Library at UNC-Chapel Hill. (There was no Davis Library back then. Like I said, it was the Dark Ages.) Anyway, now in the modern, connected age, we don’t have a staff meeting, that patron printing problems aren’t discussed. So, this caught my eye. Dynix has announced a partnership with Iteam Resources, Inc. of Orlando, Florida, a provider of turnkey cost recovery solutions for academic and public libraries around the world. Through the partnership, Dynix customers will gain streamlined access to Iteam’s full line of cost recovery solutions, including print management, cash card systems, coin boxes, card readers, photo identification, and library cards. “When we began to offer public PCs with Internet access and multiple applications in our seven branches, it became very clear that a printing solution was needed to reduce the printing of unnecessary pages and the number of ‘mistakes’ made by our users,” said Eileen Kontrovitz, continued on page 10
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Director of Ouachita Parish Public Library (Monroe, LA), a Dynix library since 1987, “Our pay-for-print vendor of choice was iTeam. We are extremely happy with the software, hardware, and support we’ve received.”
www.iteamaccess.com
www.dynix.com

Have you read OCLC Membership 2003 Environmental Scan: Pattern Recognition? This report, just out, was produced from OCLC’s worldwide membership. Divided into social, economic, technology, research and learning, and library “landscapes” the report also includes an introduction and future frameworks sections. It explores current and future trends in libraries and allied organizations and includes much vital information about the “information landscape.” One of countless provocative quotes: “The current generation of scientists is much more familiar with PubMed and Google than the contents of their library shelves.”
http://www.oclc.org/

Gene Shimshock has joined Innovative Interfaces as Director of Marketing. In this role, Shimshock will be responsible for all marketing communications as well as advertising, trade shows, and press relations. Shimshock is an information- and Internet-industry veteran with over 25 years of experience in corporate and product marketing. His previous library marketing experience includes senior marketing roles at Information Access Company, now part of the Gale Group. He has also held executive product marketing and management positions at Knight-Ridder Financial Information and Netcom. Shimshock holds a Master’s Degree in Financial Management.
www.iili.com/

The National Library of France has chosen Innovative Interfaces’ Millennium to manage its serials collection—including legal deposits, donations and exchanges. Serial control was completely manual for legal deposits and partially manual for other serials. The Checkin Management activity for legal deposits in the Library includes: 60,000 active titles received and processed; 50,000 providers; 1,430,000 items received annually (approximately 5,600 daily); 26,000 claims annually. Orders for printed serials include approximately: 15,000 titles; 1,600 vendors and exchange partners; 158,000 received items every year; 6,000 claims every year. The project to automate serials began in 2002, when the National Library conducted a feasibility study on the implementation of software for Serials and Checkin Management.
www.iili.com/

Roland Dietz, President and CEO of Endeavor Information Systems, has announced two organizational changes effective immediately. Donald J. Muccino, current Endeavor Vice-President of Customer Services, was promoted to the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO), Mark Wilson, current Endeavor Director of Technical Resources and Acting Director of Implementation, was named to the position of Chief Information Officer (CIO). Wilson will oversee the technologies that serve customers using Endeavor’s ASP solutions and Endeavor’s hosted solutions such as the LinkFinderPlus Subscription Service. Wilson will report to Muccino. Development and implementation of emerging technologies for Endeavor’s software systems remains with Verne Coppi, Endeavor Vice-President of Development and an original founder of Endeavor. Muccino joined Endeavor after 27 years of progressive leadership at OCLC where his last position was Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer. Wilson joined Endeavor in 1994, the company’s first year of business.
http://www.endinfoyos.com

Don Jaeger <DON_JAEGER9@msn.com> and Mary Page <mspage@crl.rutgers.edu> are both running for Vice-President/President-elect of NASIG this year. Two great people! NASIG is lucky to have such qualified candidates!

Heard from Barbara Dean (Arlington County Public Library) <bd@co. arlington.vla.us> the other day. She was only in San Diego for a few days, but said that it was very productive. Miss seeing you in Charleston, Barbara! Y’all come!!

University of California Press has launched its new online journal service Calliber. Beginning in January 2004, Calliber will be the new home for the full family of University of California Press Journals. All UC Press journals will be available on the new platform, which will also provide an environment that enables the integration of multiple content types within and across different disciplines and formats. This new platform will also provide the Press with additional tools that enable dynamic management of electronic content and thereby cut publication times. Calliber is powered by Atypon Systems. University of California Press is committed to helping institutions make a smoother transition from its current hosting services, Ingenta, to Calliber. For the next six months all journals will be available on both sites allowing institutions sufficient time to make the transition to Calliber.
www.calliber.ucpress.net

Wow! As I’m sure you know, Cindy Compton retired from Baker and Taylor and YBP this past December. Cindy did a terrific job and we all will certainly miss her! But, exciting news! The fantabulous Mark Kendall <mkendall@ybp.com> tells me that Beverley Geer joined the YBP/Baker and Taylor sales team as Regional Manager on Monday, December 29. In fact, I hear that Beverley was in San Diego, but I missed her! Beverley will assume responsibility for all YBP and B&T academic accounts in Texas as well as vendor order accounts in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana. Beverley has all kinds of great experience with companies and libraries. She earned both her BA in English and Masters in Library Science (MLS) at the University of Oklahoma. She is past president of NASIG (North American Serials Interest Group) and past-chair of ALA’s ALCTS (Association for Library Collections and Technical Services) Serials Section.

Got a great “Happy Holidays” greeting from the always cheerful and happy Digsby Sales continued on page 12

<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
Rumo(u)rs from Paddington

by Daryl Rayner (Marketing Director, xrefer; Phone: +44 (0) 20 7479 9204; Fax: +44 (0) 20 7479 9212)  
<daryl@xrefer.com> www.xrefer.com www.xreferplus.com

Its official. Its cold. I’m hoping that by the time you read this the Spring flowers will have arrived and the temperature improved! Our flurry of snow last week is, of course, not a patch on what you suffer in some parts for many months a year. But the difference is that we just can’t cope with it. One downfall of snow and the railways and roads descend into chaos!

The marathon training is going well. When I say “well” I mean that I have not pulled an obscure muscle or got terrible blisters to prevent me from running. But the problem is that I just haven’t run far enough. So I’ve entered myself for a half Marathon in March to really put my legs through their paces. I am running the London Marathon on April 18th for Cystic Fibrosis http://www.cftrust.org.uk/ and will let you know when my sponsorship form is up at http://www.justgiving.com/home.uk.asp.

So what been happening on this side of the pond? The Women’s Library http://www.thewomenslibrary.ac.uk/exhib-home.html is running an exhibition entitled: Office Politics: Women and the Workplace: 1860-2004. The entrance is free. Netskills http://www.netskills.ac.uk/workshops/forthcoming.html are running a full range of workshops over the forthcoming months.


We are all excited to see that Ricky Gervais of “The Office” fame http://www.bbc.co.uk/comedy/heartofice/ is going to be the special guest speaker at The Booksellers Association Conference http://www.booksellers.org.uk/index.htm.


The Open Access agenda continues with a boost of £150,000 of seed money being offered to publishers by JISC http://www.jisc.ac.uk/ to make journals freely available online using the open access model. This new funding follows an agreement with open access pioneers Biomed Central http://www.biomedcentral.com/.

Furthermore, a Commons committee in the UK is to conduct an inquiry on access to STM journals focusing on “price and availability.” The Chair of the committee, Ian Gibson, has said: “[We] will have some very tough questions for publishers, libraries and government.” http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_communities/science_and_technology_commitee.cfm.

The National Library of Scotland (NLS) http://nls.uk has made a request for views on its draft strategy. One of the key themes of the strategy is to widen access beyond traditional scholars using the NLS as a last resort. A groundbreaking study commissioned by the British Library http://www.bl.uk has found that it generates 363m of value for the UK — more than £4 for every £1 of public funding it receives. 125 titles have been nominated for the Impac Dublin Literary Award. This is the largest and most international book prize of its kind http://www.impeadublinaward.ie/.

Its good to hear that the National Electronic Library for Health’s library for cardiovascular disease specialists has been launched. Though aimed primarily at NHS stuff, it is also available to patients and the public: http://www.nelh.nhs.uk/cardiovascular.

World Book Day is on March 4th this year. Libraries and schools will run a week of events and the people’s network will be central to delivering the all day Online Festival. The Reading Agency will lay on a mix of films and live Webcasts. It will be launched by JK Rowling on Webcast http://www.worldbookday.com/.

Apparently Forty-two European national libraries (including the British Library) have endorsed a plan to create a new pan-European library service. The European Library (TEL) will offer “integrated access” to European national collections. The scheme is due to start at the end of 2004. (I’m told that it’s already been three years in planning!) http://www.europeanlibrary.org/.

It’s good to read that Karen Stanton has been appointed Director of Sheffield Hallam University’s Learning Centre and at Calderdale, Gary Burrows has been appointed Head of Libraries, Museums and Arts. We wish them both luck.

That’s all from me for now. Until next time. Daryl 🏃

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<digby@uctlib.uct.ac.za>. He says he’s now settled into his new apartment. He has had a busy but rewarding year running Acquisitions and Collection Development (a permanent job change for him). He is supervising 13 staff members including the Electronic Resources Librarian. His son Donald is working at a pizza restaurant, getting ready for his driving test, and plans to study history and drama at UCT next year. No word on Andre. Have to check on him!

RFID was a word I heard on the exhibit floor at ALA Midwinter. I didn’t know what it was, ignorant me, so, of course, I asked one of my knowledgeable colleagues. RFID is radio frequency identification. It’s like an electronic barcode but better (or worse) depending on your orientation. This small bit of computer expertise can contain much information about you and/or an item for your consideration. The latest BiblioTech Review has a technical briefing on RFID and you will be glad if you read it: http://www.biblio-tech.com/html/rfid.html

Anyway, related, I was reading on BusinessWire (Feb 2, 2004) and picked up this press release. 42 Technologies, Inc. (OTC:TWO), a provider of end-to-end supply chain management solutions, has announced a new radio frequency identification (RFID) partnership program designed to enable companies to use RFID technology to enable real time closed loop supply chain management. 42 is initiating the partner program to include target solutions, industries and partners such as GlobeRanger, IBM, Informatica, Sun Microsystems, and webMethods. For further information contact, 42 Corporate Communications Melanie Ofenloch, 469-357-3027 <melanie_ofenloch@42.com>. RFID is something about which we will no doubt be hearing more.


Also under discussion at ALA Midwinter was Elsevier’s pricing of ScienceDirect. The insistence by Elsevier on “hundled” pricing of their journals, many of which are not used or are used very little, has caused several prestigious libraries (Cornell, Harvard, Germany’s University of Oldenburg) to rebel. See: “Reed Elsevier: Feels Resistance to Web Pricing,” by Charles Goldsmith The Wall Street Journal Online, January 19, 2004. http://online.wsj.com/article

More on this — Duke University, North Carolina State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are ending a joint agreement by which their libraries gained electronic access to approximately 1,300 jour...
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gals produced by one of the world’s leading scientific publishers, Elsevier Science. “We recognize that reduced availability of the many prominent science and technology journals published by Elsevier will impose an inconvenience on faculty members and students accustomed to the current arrangement,” Duke Provost Peter Lange and his two counterparts wrote in a joint memo to their faculties. “We believe, however, that the negotiating position adopted by Reed Elsevier leaves no other option.” University librarian David Ferrerio said the decision was a matter of principle, and essential to the long-term vitality of libraries at Duke and other universities. “We’re not challenging the quality of the publications,” he said. “What we’re fighting here is the business model that the company is forcing us to swallow.”

http://www.dukeneu.duke.edu/news/journals_0104.html

Alibris has named Southwest Missouri State University Libraries and Andrews Elementary School Library of Austin, Texas as the winners of two Alibris Collection Award, a grant of up to $3,000 in books that helps under-funded libraries to expand their collection in a specific area. The award was presented Sunday, January 11, during the American Library Association’s Midwinter meeting in San Diego. The award to Southwest Missouri State University (SMSU) Libraries will enhance the collection of theatrical monologues available to students of the Department of Theatre and Dance, for which SMSU is noted. “Among the most heavily used of our materials, these works are the backbone of undergraduate acting classes, and keeping the supply commensurate to demand is a challenge,” said SMSU Librarian Lynn Cline. “This collection award will allow us to better supply students who are constantly searching for material for their auditon portfolios.” At Andrews Elementary School, where pre-kindergarten teachers require that parents read to their children five minutes every night, the award will add a significant collection of Spanish language children’s books to the school library. “Many of the families in our program are unable to supply the books to read to their children, and our collection of Spanish language books is small,” said Librarian Katherine King. The two recipients were chosen from among 60 applicants. Jurors included Michael Keller, University Librarian, Stanford University; Mark Sandler, Collection Development Officer, University of Michigan; Jack Walsdorff, retired bookseller and book scholar; and Dr. Richard Weatherford, Chairman and Co-Founder of Alibris.

http://www.alibris.com/librarians/collection_award.cfm

I have to tell you, those Emerald tote bags that were given out at the 2003 Charleston Conference were hot items! Everyone wants one! But we are all out.

OCLC Research and the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) have awarded three grants to university researchers for 2004. Recipients of the OCLC/ALISE Library and Information Science Research Grants were recognized at an awards reception Jan. 8 during the ALISE 2004 Annual Conference in San Diego, California. The OCLC/ALISE Library and Information Science Research Grants Program awards grants of up to $15,000 to foster research by faculty in schools of library and information science. “The research aided by these grants complements the efforts of OCLC to advance librarianship and information science,” said Lorcan Dempsey, Vice President, OCLC Research. The OCLC/ALISE Library and Information Science Research Grants Program awards for 2004: (1) Corinne Jorgensen, Associate Professor, School of Information Studies, Florida State University, for a study, “Developing a Thesaurus for Indexing Images Across Diverse Domains.” Since image and video collections encompass diverse domains and disciplines and exist in multiple formats, access to materials in these collections is often problematic, with little access to the visual content or interpretative aspects of items. Dr. Jorgensen proposes development of a visual indexing thesaurus based on theoretical considerations from basic research, and testing this thesaurus across a variety of domains and collections. (2) Fei Li, Assistant Professor, and Nancy Zimmerman, Associate Professor, School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, for a study, “Consumer Health Information Services in American Public Libraries: An Assessment of Current Status and Educational Needs.” The purpose of this research is to help public librarians improve their health information services and develop appropriate service policies, and to help improve the education of health information professionals working in public libraries. (3) Elizabeth Yake, Assistant Professor, School of Information, University of Michigan, for a study, “Academic Reference Librarians and Extending Access to Primary Sources.” Dr. Yake’s study acknowledges the expanded role of academic reference librarians as gatekeepers of primary sources and poses two key research questions concerning accessibility: What is the role of system versus domain knowledge in searching for unpublished materials in bibliographic utilities and integrated library systems, and are the classic search strategies that break questions into concepts effective in searching MARC records for archives and manuscripts that are organized by provenance and have less precise subject analysis? Application materials for future grants are available on the OCLC Website www.oclc.org/research/grants/.

The always-on-top-of-it Ramune Kubilus <rkubilus@northwestern.edu> sends information about this upcoming SYMPOSIUM sponsored by the MARC Development Section. The Symposium is: Seize the E-Journal: Models for Archiving and includes Betsy Humphreys, Associate Director for Library Operations, U.S. National Library of Medicine (Moderator), Eileen Gifford Fenton, Executive Director, Electronic-Archiving Initiative, JSTOR, Erik Oltmans, Manager, e-Depot, National Library of the Netherlands, Victoria Reich, Director, LOCKSS Program, Stanford University Libraries and Academic Resources, Edwin Sequeira, Project Manager, PubMed Central, National Center for Biotechnology Information, U.S. National Library of Medicine Reaction Panel, Brittain G. Roth, Director, Academic Information, Geisinger Health System, Mark Danderson, Director, Sales and Business Development, New England Journal of Medicine, T. Scott Plutchak, Director, Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, University of Alabama, and Editor, Journal of the Medical Library Association. The Symposium will be held Wednesday, May 26 from 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., in the Hilton: Washington, following the conclusion of the Medical Library Association annual 2004 meeting (MLA membership is not required for attendance at the Symposium.) http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2004/index.html;

look under ‘Meeting Symposia’

Speaking of which, did you see the editorial in BMJ about LOCKSS? Entitled “Preserving today’s scientific record for tomorrow: LOCKSS marries age-old concepts of librarianship with modern technology.” It’s by Victoria Reich <vreich@stanford.edu> and David Roseenthal <dsh@stanford.edu>.

“We save what remains: not by vaults and locks which fence them from the public eye and use in constraining them to the waste of time, but by such a multiplication of copies, as shall place them beyond the reach of accident.”

Thomas Jefferson

http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/reprintsitebar/328/7431/617#ref


From Chuck Hamaker <chahamate@email.wustl.edu> and Liblicense-L <biblicense-l@lists.yale.edu> — DOI News - February 2004 — Nielsen BookData, a VNU company formed in 2002 from the merger of two of the leading suppliers of information and services to the UK book industry, Information Services and Book Data, has been appointed as a DOI Registry Agency. The company will begin to offer, from later this year, DOI based services for publications and other resources from publishers and other content providers for use in education, training and leisure; and for metadata collection for resource discovery; and for the support of ordering and market analysis services.


We at the College of Charleston have been working on nothing but serials for the past three months. I used to get what I called “serial headaches,” but I no longer get them. My head gave up. Anyway, we couldn’t have done without the hard-working Jenny Buzeau <jbuzeau@esbco.com> of EBSCO. And, speaking of Jenny, she is due to have a little boy on February 18, 2004. She will be taking a six-week maternity leave. Jenny says that she and her husband are very excited and ready,

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Rumors
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ready, ready, for this baby to come! I always said if pregnancy was just seven months, it might be bearable.

One of the key missions of libraries is the collection and preservation of the historic record for future generations. Read this article about the Smithsonian Institution's undertaking with content services provider Innodata Isogen to digitally preserve the "complete record of the U.S. Exploring Expedition (USEE) of 1838-1842, under the command of Charles Wilkes, the first federally funded mission of exploration in American history."—“Let's hear it for 'humanities computing'” by Hugh D. of KMWorld Magazine, Jan 14.


Speaking of which, on March 17 at the Linnaean Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, ALPSP/FST will have a Seminar on Preserving the Knowledge-Base of Science. John Marsden, Director, Linnaean Society is chair of the Seminar. This afternoon seminar will describe how we currently preserve the archives of science, focusing on the collections of national libraries and other great repositories in the UK, and then move on to describe the challenges of the future: the trend towards retro-digitisation of print, new developments in the archiving of electronic material, and the particular problems of archiving huge amounts of data. Are we taking the right steps towards creating secure electronic archiving systems that will preserve the knowledge-base of science, in the same way that print (and to a certain extent microfilm) has done in the past? What is the role of the learned society? What is the role of the publisher? Does the move towards Open Access publishing models present an opportunity or a challenge to the permanent preservation of knowledge? ALPSP/FST members: £85.00; Academic: £100.00; SFEP freelance members: £135.00. Non-members: £170.00. To register online: http://www.alpsp.org/events/170304.htm

Posted on Licensence February 3 — "Project MUSE is halfway through the process of creating new pricing models for the 2005 calendar year. We have already received valuable feedback and thank all who have commented. Our thinking continues to evolve and we are seeking additional input through a Web-based survey on factors being considered for the new pricing model. We are sending invitations to Project MUSE subscriber contacts, but also want to invite prospective customers and current customers who may not be the designated subscriber contact to respond. Please share this invitation with interested colleagues. Completing the survey should take 20 to 30 minutes, depending on how many comments you choose to make. Please enter the survey here: http://www.informedestrategies.com/projectmuse.

A fascinating read. From Frontline (volume 21, issue 02, January 17-30, 2004 — "We have to be able to recover our costs," interview with Prof. Martin Blume, Editor-in-Chief, American Physical Society. Blume discusses the movement toward open access publishing, page charges for authors versus the subscription model, the Ginsparg e-print archive, the Budapest Open Access Initiative among others models.

http://www.frontum.net/fj2102/stories/2004013001308200.htm

Was reading through HR 2613 on the Library of Congress Thomas Website. The bill is called: Public Access to Science Act (Introduced in House) and proposes to amend title 17, United States Code, to exclude from copyright protection works resulting from scientific research substantially funded by the Federal Government.

http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query

Was talking to Paul Bazar <pbazar@provindicrude.edu> the other day about a grisly subscription problem and was reminded of his and Janice Schuster’s great presentation in Charleston on “Periodicals Collection Management: Organizing, Creating, and Implementing a System.”

Did you see the GREAT review that the 2001 Charleston Conference proceedings got in College and Research Libraries, January 2004, v65:1, p.81-82. The review is by Shelley Arlen (University of Florida). Only problem is that my name is listed as the editor of the book. I am the general editor, but ROSANN BAZIRJAN (Penn State) and VICKY SPECK (ABC-CLIO) are the REAL editors and deserve ALL the credit for the excellent review. Thank you, Vicky and Rosann, for your untiring work to make the proceedings happen. Vicky and Rosann are now working on the 2002 proceedings even as we speak. And I haven’t seen the 2002 proceedings, but I believe that they are out. Will check and get back to y’all. In the meantime, we will post information on the Charleston Conference Website about the proceedings.

http://www.katima.info/conference/

Ran into the sensational Michael Cooper <info@buscainc.com> of BUSCA fame (BUSCA means “search” in Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese). Anyway, Busca, Inc. is located in the heart of the Finger Lakes region. Although Busca’s headquarters is in Ithaca, NY, their primary facility located in Hector, NY sports a spectacular view of Seneca Lake and the countryside. Did you see Jack Montgomery’s interview with Michael in the November 2003 ATG (v.159/5, p.54, 58, Well, Garrison Kellor, host of A Prairie Home Companion, read one of Michael’s authors’ Victor W. Pearn’s poems on the Writer’s Almanac program of November 11, 2003, Veteran’s Day. The featured poem “Receiving” was from Devil Dogs & Jarheads by Victor W. Pearn (0-9666196-3-3, $14.95). Devil Dogs and Jarheads is based on Pearn’s training in Continued on page 57.

Preserving A History Legacy:
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similar model to address issues pertinent to HBCU libraries. Further exploration revealed that the HBCU library directors and deans had never met as a body, had never convened to share ideas, talk, and network or laugh together, and were without a platform for advocacy. No existing organization or committee offered an agenda or venue on behalf of the libraries of the designated White House HBCU Initiative, not in the American Library Association (ALA), not in the Black Caucus of the ALA (BCALA), not in the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), and not in the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). (The one exception is the “Association of 1890 Library Deans and Directors,” representing 18 land-grant HBCU institutions.)

Upon closer examination, it was noted that better than 70% of the HBCUs are within the geographic region served by SOLINET. This reality was discussed during a retreat of the SOLINET Board. The SOLINET Board and Kate Nevens, executive director, embraced the idea with enthusiasm. What started out as an airing of mutual concerns took on a different focus that became a strategic goal of the SOLINET Board to foster cooperation among libraries with diverse populations in HBCUs and the Caribbean. SOLINET provided services, assigned staff to work on the project, and is hosting the HBCU Library Director electronic discussion forum (edf). This dialogue, begun November of 2001, served to engage the library directors and the executive director of the Council on Libraries and Information Resources (CLIR), who along with SOLINET, provided financial support. With funding and the development of a strategic plan, planning began for the first meeting of HBCU Library directors. Eleven months later, the HBCU Library Initiative was formally born on Monday morning, October 28, 2002. Continued on page 18.
that, as a librarian, my ability to sit in front of my television, mesmerized in 60-minute blocks of time, might be considered unprofessional, lazy, or even rogue. My criminal addiction started at an early age; under the influence of my grandmother, I watched many an episode of "Columbo," "Hunter," "Mike Hammer," "Murder She Wrote," and "Spencer: For Hire." By the time I was in grade school, I was watching "21 Jump Street" and "Moonlighting" on my own accord. Somehow, attending college seemed to refine my viewing preference to edgy, pulled-from-the-headlines productions: "In the Heat of the Night" and "NYPD Blue" were among my weekly television lineup. Another crime drama darling of mine was "Homicide: Life on the Streets," which, sadly, ended its series run in 1999, to much critical acclaim. It is understandable, then, that when The Television Crime Fighters Handbook by Vincent Terrace came across my desk, I jumped at the chance to investigate it.

It is also understandable that when anyone sets out to accomplish such a formidable task as compiling over 9,800 details from 301 crime-fighting programs, he or she has creative license over the series that are included in said compilation. What is not understandable to me, however, are the crime-fighting staples that are absent from Terrace's collection, without so much as an explanation or even mention in his introduction. Since he does not detail his selection criteria, the reader can only wonder why such popular and award-winning shows as "Homicide," "Law and Order," "NYPD Blue," and "The Shield" are excluded from The Television Crime Fighters Handbook, while other shows—such as " Crossing Jordan," "C.S.I.: Crime Scene Investigation," and "Hack"—made the cut.

Nevertheless, Terrace has assembled a multitude of information about television law enforcers and the series to which they belong. Arranged alphabetically by show title, each entry summarizes main plot arcs and provides intriguing character facts. Information about related series, spin-offs, and projects is also detailed. Terrace offers two appendices: the first, "Television's Experimental Crime Fighters," briefly the reader on programs broadcast between 1937 and 1946; the second lists numerous unsold detective pilot films. An actor index completes the volume. The Television Crime Fighters Handbook, while not exhaustive, is a respectable collection of interesting facts about a hefty number of small-screen series. Appropriate for high school, public, and possibly academic libraries, it will doubtless appeal to any patron with a bent for crime drama/comedy.

Rumors
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the U.S. Marines during the Vietnam War period. Check it out on BUSCA's Website: www.buscainc.com.

My daughter told me about this. University professors, students and legislators from around the country have released a new report which finds that textbook publishers drive up the price of textbooks for students. The report, entitled, "Rip-off 101: How the Current Practices of the Publishing Industry Drive up the Cost of College Textbooks," surveyed the most widely-taught books at colleges and universities in California and Oregon and the faculty that teach those books. The report found that even though students already pay $900 year for textbooks, textbook publishers artificially inflate the price of textbooks by adding bells and whistles to the current texts, and forcing cheaper used books off the market by producing expensive new editions of textbooks that are barely different from the previous edition. The report also found that most of the faculty members surveyed in the report do not think many of these add-ons are useful and are supportive of efforts to streamline textbook costs and extend the shelf life of current textbook editions. CALPIRG continued on page 64

<http://www.against-the-grain.com> 57
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EARLY LIFE: Grew up outside of Philadelphia. Lived in Atlanta for nearly 20 years with a brief stint in Houston.

FAMILY: Immediate family lives in Southwest Florida. One sister who’s a family practice physician.

EDUCATION: B.S. Villanova University, M.S. Georgia State University

MOST MEANINGFUL CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: Bringing online searching to physicians. My former employer, BRS Information Technologies, pioneered the development of online research for the medical community. I’ve always been proud of being part of the start-up group.

WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS: I see library patrons being able to link seamlessly among aggregators. The recent collaboration to integrate OpenURL has been a major step in this direction. I anticipate that most of the technical and organizational issues relating to linking will be resolved.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES: Volunteer at the Atlanta Midtown Assistance Center providing emergency help to people who’ve recently been unemployed. (I’ve been very busy lately!) 

GOAL I HOPE TO ACHIEVE IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS: Become an advocate for the poor and those with special disabilities.

IN MY SPARE TIME I LIKE TO: Play 40’s music on piano and organ, Practice Iyengar yoga several times a week with very stringent female teachers.

PHILOSOPHY: Live in the present moment.

The Black American regiment but about soldiers stationed in Germany in 1989. It was shot in Karlsruhe at the abandoned Gryzynsky Barracks, at the Tulia Bad, and many other locations in and around the city. I worked on this film in “Local Crowd Casting”, it was my job to find extras to play American soldiers. My daughter was the set production assistant to the director. That was an exciting few months for us!

I have written a “krimi” (mystery novel, as I’m sure you know) set in Karlsruhe. It was translated directly from the English manuscript into German and will be published in November (Karen Adams, Straßengäfer, Heyne Verlag). It’s really just an excuse to portray Karlsruhe from the point of view of an American private eye named McAdam. I’m still looking for an American publisher, but so far no agent has thought an American public could be interested in a tale set in the German provinces.

Well, I have a copy of Strassenfeger and can vouch for its quality. I have read many a mystery with settings in exotic locations not of the author’s origin. Many of us like to read about places we have never visited and we also like to read about locations we have some familiarity with. Joe Gores is about the Bay Area where I went to school and worked for a number of years so he is fun to read at that level but I wouldn’t have read two of his novels if they hadn’t had good characterization, a plot, and a mystery.

On the other hand, I have never been to Paris but Maigret mysteries fascinate me and they were written not by a Parisian, but by a Belgian. Mon dieu! What is wrong with American publishers? What Karen fails to mention but is included in her book is the fact that her book was well on its way to winning a contest with a $20,000 prize and an American publisher but someone, a committee no doubt, decided that it was too provincial for American audiences. Strassenfeger has great characters — McAdam, his wife Uschi, and Connie, the female police officer who leaves the force because, as a woman in a male organization, cannot get a fair shake. There are great descriptions of Karlsruhe and of the street car system. I know people who would read it for the streetcars alone, for goodness’ sake. Strassenfeger is a good read and I hope that some publisher reads this and decides to take a look at the manuscript. Karen would be great on a book tour, too. Think of it, an American expatriot of sorts writing mysteries (there will be more McAdam books, I am sure) in German. Let’s strike a blow for internationalism here and move away from the isolationist trend (except when there is oil) that seems to be ailing the United States.

If you want to find out more about this American Library in Karlsruhe, please visit www.american-library.de. Aufwiderschein! 🎪

Rumors
from page 57

(California Public Interest Research Group) is a statewide consumer organization with chapters at seven universities around the state. http://calpirg.org/CA.aspx?id=11988&ti=CA

Texas Christian University (TCU) has selected ALEPH 500(tm) as its next generation library management system, together with SFX(tm) as its context-sensitive linking solution. Texas Christian University, located five miles from the heart of downtown Fort Worth, has a total enrollment of approximately 8,200 students. TCU offers 82 undergraduate majors and 16 graduate degrees in 50 areas, including nine doctoral fields. Total faculty and staff number approximately 1,460, of which 392 are fulltime faculty. The Mary Couts Burnett Library physically houses more than 1,900,000 items. The library’s holdings are greatly augmented by online electronic resources including thousands of electronic books, electronic journals and full-text databases. Outstanding special collections of the TCU Library include the William Luther Lewis Collection of English and American Literature, the Speaker Jim Wright Archives, and the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition Archives. www.exlibrisgroup.com

Maybe some day my day will come and I’ll be able to attend The Acquisitions Institute at Timberline Lodge. The upcoming Institute is Saturday, May 15, through Tuesday, May 18, 2004 at Timberline Lodge, one hour east of Portland, Oregon on the slope of Mt. Hood. The keynote address will be given by Henry Yankle, College Librarian, Pennsylvania, Whitman College. Registration is now open and the preliminary program is listed at http://libweb.soregon.edu/events/aith/preliminary.pdf.

The American Psychological Association (APA) will license content contained in the former psyche database from Ebsco, the new owner of the content. Most of the content licensed will be used in APA’s new gray literature database PsycheXTRAS, which APA plans continued on page 65

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BORN & LIVED: Yorkton, Saskatchewan, Canada. Made my first visit to the U.S. at age 23 and was surprised to find a self-sufficient country south of the Canadian border.

FAMILY: Married an American, John Fenner, in 1984. One daughter, Shona, age 14 years.

EDUCATION: Undergraduate degrees in music and education, MLS from the University of Western Ontario.

FIRST JOB: Private music teacher, church music director and freelance piano accompanist.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES: A librarian for 19 years; I've worked in business, academic, public and research libraries in the U.S. and Canada.

IN MY SPARE TIME I LIKE TO: Play music, take long walks or read.

FAVORITE BOOKS: Biographies. It's fascinating to see what people do with their lives.

PHILOSOPHY: "Tolerance is the highest virtue. Humility comes next." — A.J. Cronin.

MOST MEANINGFUL CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: I did original cataloging for Canada, Canada's national bibliography, when I worked at the National Library of Canada in Ottawa.

HOW/WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS: Still changing, perhaps with some outcomes more clearly in sight.

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to launch in early 2004. Gary R. Vandenbos, PhD, the Publisher for APA, noted, "We expect to acquire approximately 15,000 records from newsletters and other similar materials that would be suitable for our new database. Rather than integrate this content with the peer-reviewed scholarly literature that PsycINFO is acclaimed for covering, we have chosen to launch a separate gray literature database that will cover a wide range of non-scholarly material. The newsletter content put into e-psych-e between 2000 and 2003 will be very useful in this product." He went on to comment that, although most of the e-psych-e coverage duplicated PsycINFO coverage, it is possible that APA may be able to fill in some holes using e-psych-e records but without references and with APA indexing. EBSCO bought e-psych-e from its originators in October 2003. Tim Collins, Vice President and General Manager, noted that EBSCO hopes to use pieces of the database in a variety of products. He also said, "EBSCO has been building several multi-disciplinary thesauri to further improve our indexing across EBSCO databases. The thesaurus used to index e-psych-e will be helpful in expanding our psychology coverage." Under the terms of the sale, e-psych-e, which now includes approximately 112,000 records, will cease to exist as a database as of December 31, 2003.

In December 2003, the awesomely deserving Judy Lee <jlee@emisphere.com>, the Business Research Information Specialist at

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And They Were There

Reports of Meetings — 23rd Annual Charleston Conference Issues In Book and Serial Acquisition, November 5-8, 2003, Charleston, SC.

Column Editor: Sever Bordeianu (University of Mexico) <sbordeia@unm.edu>

“Using Microsoft Access as a way of Managing Serial Collections”

Report by Kathryn McCarthy (MLS student, University of South Carolina) <katmccarthy@yahoo.com>

Paul Bazin, the Serials Librarian at Providence College, R.I., had a problem. The Library Director had just “requested” a comprehensive inventory of the serials collection as a part of the library renovation that was about to take place. The Director wanted this report in six weeks.

Paul solicited the help of a young co-worker, Janice Schuster, the Coordinator of Reference Services, to aid him with this project. Together with an extremely talented student worker, these three used Microsoft Access to develop an accurate, detailed, up-to-date collection management system.

This certainly wasn’t an easy task. To give the reader a little bit of background, Providence College is a four-year liberal arts institution with approximately 4,200 FTE students. The majority of these students are undergraduates. There is only one main library at this college, the Phillips Memorial Library, and there are no branches associated with it. Phillips Memorial contains 312,000 books and bound periodicals, approximately 100 controlled databases, 1,650 print periodical subscriptions, and Phillips Memorial is a Government repository. In addition, Providence College is a member of a consortium that includes eight other colleges in the area sharing a catalog called HELIN.

The process of making this database took about a year (so maybe if your director wants the information in six weeks, this may not be the ideal way to provide it). The first month was devoted to planning. The second step was to gather all the information about periodicals in one place. For instance, some of the information was in HELIN while other bits of the information were on cards. Next, it was necessary to incorporate the existing data and check it against what actually was on the shelves. The student workers did an excellent job of double-checking; no mistake has been found in their calculations so far. Collaborating with the reference staff and the EBSCO invoice, the librarians determined all of the fields that would be needed for the database. Both Bazin and Schuster emphasized that the fields must be decided upon before one starts Access, because it is difficult to add fields once the format is created.

Bazin and Schuster thought Access worked wonderfully for this project, because Access allowed the user to create very in-depth fields and reports, while allowing very flexible input. Now, librarians and staff workers can easily look up information on any serial at Providence College; for instance, one can view reports on current titles, cancelled titles, microfilm only titles, or find out the Hegis Code, ISSN, determine which online databases have it, and whether the title is available in print, just to name a few of the possibilities.

Certainly, a lot of time and dedication was needed to complete this project, but the amount of time it now saves by automatically compiling reports and keeping everything organized on one user-friendly database is priceless. If you want to know more, feel free to contact Paul at <pbazin@providence.edu> or Janice at <jschuster@providence.edu> and they’ll be more than happy to send you screen shots and their Power Point presentation.

“Purchase Instead of Borrow — An International Perspective”

Report by Anthony Watkinson (Consultant, 14, Park Street, Bladen, Woodstock, Oxon, United Kingdom, OX20 1RW; Phone: +44 1993 811561; Fax: +44 1993 811067) <anthony.watkinson@btopenworld.com>

In this session Gayle Chan explained a model developed by the University of Hong Kong, which, she felt, might have relevance to other libraries. At the university it had been established that it was more efficient in most cases to buy most books from abroad rather than obtain them through inter-library loan. The questions asked were which method was faster, and most cost-effective. The calculations were only concerned with books and with books not available through local sources. Certain types of books were excluded. If an item bought was used more than twice after purchase the cost of purchase would be covered. The library had secured patron support in this policy development and considered that the new policy optimized library resources.

“Archiving With A Trusted Third Party”

Report by Anthony Watkinson (Consultant) <anthony.watkinson@btopenworld.com>

In this session Yvonne Lev, Associate University Librarian at Towson University <cooklibrary.towson.edu/stafflist.cfm>, moderated a discussion on this topic and also introduced speakers from OCLC and JSTOR. Towson is not primarily a research university and the proximity of Johns Hopkins serving the research community enables a concentration by the library on student needs. Departments were offered a choice or print or electronic journals where vendors allowed such a choice. The great majority of departments selected the electronic options.

However librarians at Towson where concerned about continued access should the publisher discontinue the journal or go out of business or in circumstances where the library decides to stop subscribing. Publisher policies, as expressed, did not alleviate such concerns. Towson therefore looked at available solutions to these problems. These solutions included costly participation in schemes like LOCKSS continued on page 67